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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/751,623	12/29/2000	Akhilesh Kumar	2207/9860	8608

7590

11/24/2003

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EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2189

DATE MAILED: 11/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/751,623

Applicant(s)

KUMAR ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Morrison et al. (Pub. No.: US 2002/0038398)

a. As per claims 1, 10, 19 Morrison discloses a method for executing a locked bus transaction in a multi-node system, comprising:

- initiating a locked-bus transaction at a bus agent; [0025], claim 4
- transmitting a locked-bus request to a first node controller; and [0025]
- deferring the locked-bus transaction at the bus agent by said first node controller (fig. 1, 106), [0025]

b. As per claims 2, 11, Morrison discloses the method further comprising transmitting the locked-bus request from the first node controller to a second node controller (fig. 2, 222), [0027], [0023], wherein controller 222 corresponding to one of nodes 107-109).

- c. As per claims 3,12, Morrison discloses the method further comprising preventing bus transactions on a bus coupled to said second node controller. [0035], wherein retries transaction implies preventing if not available)
- d. As per claims 4,13, 20, Morrison discloses the method further comprising performing the locked-bus transaction by the bus agent over the multi-node system.[0021]
- e. As per claims 5,14, Morrison discloses the method further comprising asserting a signal to said bus agent by said first node controller to prevent said bus agent from initiating a bus transaction.[0028], wherein pending locked transaction implies preventing)
- f. As per claims 6,15, Morrison discloses the method further comprising the method further comprising transmitting the locked-bus request from the first node controller to a second node controller. (fig.2, 222), [0027], [0023], wherein controller 222 corresponding to one of nodes 107-109)
- g. As per claims 7,16, Morrison discloses the method further comprising preventing bus transactions on a bus coupled to said second node controller.[0035]
- h. As per claims 8,17, Morrison discloses the method further comprising deasserting said signal to said bus agent by said first node controller.[0028]
- i. As per claims 9,18, Morrison discloses the method further comprising performing the locked-bus transaction by the bus agent over the multi-node system.[0021]

k. As per claim 21, Morrison discloses the method for executing a locked bus transaction in a multi-node system, comprising:

- initiating a locked-bus transaction at a bus agent for a first I/O node including a first I/O device; [0017], [0025], [0027]
- transmitting a locked-bus request to a first node controller; and [0025],[0027]
- deferring the locked-bus transaction at the bus agent by said first node controller. [0025], [0027]

l. As per claim 22, Morrison discloses the method further comprising transmitting the locked-bus request from the first node controller to the first I/O node [0025], [0027]

m. As per claim 23, Morrison discloses the method further comprising preventing transactions at the first I/O node for I/O devices coupled in said first I/O node. [0035]

n. As per claim 24, Morrison discloses method further comprising performing the locked-bus transaction by the bus agent over the multi-node system to the first I/O device. [0021], [0027]

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments file on 9/15/03 have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

a. In response to applicant's argument that Morrison's reference does not disclose or suggest deferring the locked bus transaction at a bus agent by the first node controller; the examiner respectfully disagrees. As Morrison notes at [0025] the IOQ receives and stores the locked transaction; the transaction is transferred via local control to processor queue. Furthermore, Morrison notes at [0027] (examiner further cited for clarification) stop issuing transactions because of a pending locked transaction (wherein storing, pending the locked transaction implies deferring). It is clear that Morrison is an analogous art and it reads on the breadth of the claimed languages; therefore it is properly stated in the rejection of record.

Conclusion

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kimi Huynh

Nov. 18, 2003



Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner